

Preston Rural District Council



# ANNUAL REPORTS

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

AND

Chief Public Health Inspector

for the Year 1970



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for the Year 1970

# PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE, 1970-71

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**Medical Officer of Health:**

J. WALKER, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., L.D.S., D.P.D.,

**Other Public Appointments:**

M.O.H. Adlington U.D.C., M.O.H. Chorley R.D.C., M.O.H. Chorley M.B.,  
M.O.H. Fulwood U.D.C., M.O.H. Leyland U.D.C., M.O.H. Longridge U.D.C.,  
M.O.H. Walton-le-Dale U.D.C., M.O.H. Withnell U.D.C.  
Divisional Medical Officer, Lancashire C.C. Health Division 4

**Deputy Medical Officer of Health:**

L. H. MAYER-JONES, L.R.C.P., M.R.C.S., D.P.H.

**Other Public Appointments:**

Senior Assistant Division Medical Officer Lancashire C.C. Health Division 4  
and Deputy M.O.H. to the Local Authorities mentioned above.

**Chief Public Health Inspector:**

T. BAXTER, M.A.P.H.I., F.R.S.H.

**District Public Health Inspectors:**

I. SHEPHERD, M.A.P.H.I.  
B. J. KIRKHAM, M.A.P.H.I.  
W. J. HOLDEN, M.A.P.H.I.  
I. R. FOSTER, M.A.P.H.I.

**Technical Assistant:**

D. HIND

**Clerk:**

Mrs. M. R. MARTIN

**Shorthand/Typist**

Mrs. C. JONES

**Wardens — Sheltered Housing Accommodation**

Mrs. A. S. BRAMLEY — Martinfield, Penwortham  
Mrs. E. SEED — Sunningdale, Barton  
Mrs. E. BARBER — Boundary Close, New Longton.

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**REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1970**

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To the Chairman and Members of the Preston Rural District Council

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour of presenting for your consideration the Ninety-first Annual Report on Public Health matters for the year 1970.

The Registrar General estimated the mid-year population to be 51,690, whilst this is an increase of 380 over the previous year it is the lowest yearly increase over the decade. This is due to the combined effects of a recession in house building a reduction in the number of residents at Whittingham Hospital and a lower birth rate.

The number of live births 689 was the lowest for ten years. It represents a live birth rate of 13.3 per 1,000 population, when adjusted by the comparability factor in order to give a realistic comparison with other areas the rate for the Preston Rural District is increased to 15.4. The live birth rate for the country as a whole was 16.0.

Illegitimate live births totalled 32, whilst this is close to the average for the past five years it represents a rate which is little more than half the national average.

The number of still births was 16 and ten children under one year of age died during the year. Premature births and congenital malformations are the main factors behind these figures.

The total number of deaths in the district was 626 which gives a death rate for the district of 12.1 per 1,000 estimated population. This figure when adjusted becomes 11.5 as compared with the death rate for the whole country of 11.7.

The impact of heart disease is shown in the table listing the causes of death on page fourteen. A particular disturbing feature is the 41 male deaths under this heading in the under 65 years of age group. This figure is nearly  $2\frac{1}{2}$  times that of cancer which is the next highest figure.

Seven cases of food poisoning were notified during the year under review. Three patients suffered from *Clostridium Welchii* of which two cases were in one family. The third was one of an outbreak of several in an adjoining district.

The other four cases were patients suffering from *Salmonella*, they were not connected and were all of different types — agona, bredeny, enteriditis, and heidelberg.



Investigations indicated that three and possibly all cases originated outside the district i.e. at Palma, Scarborough and Liverpool.

Twenty six cases of infective jaundice were notified, they were evenly spread over the district. This disease has an incubation period of from 15 to 50 days and consequently it is extremely difficult to trace the source of sporadic cases.

Milk infected with *Brucella* organisms can cause a disease known as undulant fever in man. Undulant fever is not a notifiable disease but two cases were brought to my attention during the year for investigation, it is probable that further cases did occur but due to difficulties in diagnosis were not detected as undulant fever. Heat treatment of milk such as pasteurisation renders the milk safe for consumption but eradication of the infection in cattle must of course be the ultimate aim.

In general the programme of eradication of Brucellosis in cattle is progressing satisfactorily. The accredited herd scheme of *Brucella* free cattle is the most effective long term method of eliminating the disease in cattle. At the end of the year 47 herds had been registered in the Preston Rural District and a much larger number were proceeding with the preliminary herd tests.

In order to prevent as far as practicable the sale of *Brucella* infected milk, the sampling of milk from producer/retailers continued throughout the year.

Positive samples result in action being taken on the farm to detect the infected cows and to ensure their removal from the milking herd. Details are given in the body of this report.

The speed of travel between Britain and other countries together with the increasing number travelling abroad, present a continuous risk of persons returning who are in the incubation stage of a serious infectious disease. Fortunately the control of these situations is one aspect of the Health Services which in general has operated successfully at all levels.

On a number of occasions the department has been alerted by Department of Health Headquarters or by Sea and Airport Medical Officers in respect of residents returning from infected areas or who are contacts of persons who have on arrival in Britain been found to be suffering from infectious diseases.

The retirement of Mr. Young in June marked the end of 36 years distinguished service as Clerk of the Council. Throughout my service to the Council I have been aware and appreciative of his handling of the various problems which have from time to time confronted the Council.

During the year I was pleased to welcome the appointment of Dr. Mayer-Jones as Deputy Medical Officer of Health in succession to Dr. Pover who resigned to take up an appointment in South Africa.



In conclusion I again wish to acknowledge the continued support of members of the Public Health Committee and the valuable collaboration of Mr. Baxter and the staff of the department for the competent way in which they carried out their many duties on behalf of the Council.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your Obedient Servant,

J. WALKER,

Medical Officer of Health

## PHYSICAL FEATURES OF THE AREA

The Rural District is largely a lowland area, mainly below 250 feet, lying largely to the north of the River Ribble, but with considerable extensions south of the river, south-west and east of Preston. In the extreme north of the district the land rises rapidly to 874 feet at Beacon Fell, and in the east, heights of over a thousand feet are attained on the southern slopes of Longridge Fell. North of Preston the drainage is largely eastwards to the River Wyre, while the rest of the district drains directly or indirectly into the Ribble.

The solid geological formations represented in the district are buried beneath a thick cover of "drift" deposits. Apart from the valley alluvium of the rivers and streams and the raised terraces, along the Ribble and Darwen, the "drift" is composed of glacial boulder clay, sand and gravel.

The latter occur only as impersistent patches on the boulder clay, such as that to the north-east of Goosnargh, or is exposed in the sides of the many stream valleys. Boulder clay covers most of the district, and in general gives rise to a heavy clay soil. The numerous marl pits which were dug many years ago to obtain material to lighten the soil are a characteristic feature of boulder clay areas. The heavy clay soils provide excellent pastures which support dairy herds, and arable farming is of less importance. Poultry farming is widespread, as it is throughout the whole of the Fylde area.

The solid rocks have little effect on the physical features of the area because of the thick drift cover. Over much of the area this thick cover renders it impossible to determine with any degree of accuracy the nature and structure of the underlying rocks, unless borings are undertaken. In the extreme north and east of the district, however, the solid formations outcrop at the surface. These outcrops belong to the Carboniferous Limestone and Millstone Grit formation. The former is the oldest formation represented in the district, but here it does not carry the massive limestone beds so characteristic of other areas, e.g. Clitheroe. It is composed of a thick series of shales with thin limestones, which underlie the greater part of the parishes of Goosnargh, Whittingham and Houghton. Towards the top of the latter there is a rather thicker limestone bed, the Pendleside Limestone, which occurs on the northern flanks of Longridge Fell. The top of the Carboniferous Limestone is formed by the Lower Bowland Shales, which contain a fairly characteristic grit band, the Pendleside Grit. These occur on Beacon Fell and Longridge Fell. The Millstone Grit is represented by a series of grits and shales. The lowest beds are the Upper Bowland Shales, which are succeeded by the massive Pendle Grit. This latter forms the conspicuous feature of Beacon Fell and Longridge Fell, and together with the overlying shales and grits, underlie the parishes of Hothersall, Ribchester and Dutton. Millstone Grit shales and grits are present beneath the "drift" in the southern part of the parish of Samlesbury, and the north-east part of Grimsargh parish. The grits in this area have not been tried as a source of water supply, so the potentiality of water bores is not known. Results from boring in grits vary considerably according to the nature of the grit and its openness of grain and extent of the jointing and fissuring.

West of the Carboniferous Limestone and Millstone Grit occurs the Triassic Bunter Sandstone, a fairly hard red, yellow or buff-coloured sandstone. The details of structure and the position of faults are only assumed, but the following picture has been obtained by the study of available bore records. The Bunter Sandstone is faulted against or overlies the most steeply dipping Carboniferous Limestone shales, and the Millstone Grit to the east and south-east. The sandstone dips gently to the north-west, and occurs beneath the "drift" in the parishes of Barton, Woodplumpton, Lea, Hutton, Penwortham, Cuerdale, the south-west part of the parish



of Grimsargh, and the north-west part of Samlesbury parish. It is affected by strong faults, the exact positions of which are difficult to determine.

Keuper Marl, thinly bedded, fine grained red marls with bands and patches of green-coloured marls and thin bands of fine grained sandstone or "skerries", are present beneath the boulder clay in the parishes of Longton, Little Hooe, Much Hooe and Farington. The beds dip north-westwards and are separated from the Bunter Sandstone to the north by a fault. Borings in Keuper Marl give little or no water, and that which is obtained is too highly mineralised to be of use for public supply.

## METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS

The following notes are taken from the report of Dr. Barocas, the Director of the Jeremiah Horrocks and Wilfred Hall Observatories, Preston.

The year 1970 presented a considerable contrast with previous years. Generally the driest month of the year is April and the wettest August. In 1970 however the driest month was May and the wettest was November. May 1970 was the driest since records began in 1876.

The hottest day of the year occurred on June 10th when the maximum temperature reached 83.6°F. A partial drought began on May 11th and ended on June 22nd. This was the only drought of the year.

The coldest day of the year was January 7th when the minimum temperature dropped to 11.7°F and on this same day the maximum was barely above freezing.

The total rainfall of 38.22" was slightly above average. November 17th was the wettest day with 1.27" and during the month of November there were more than 100 hours of rain.

## General Statistics

### STATISTICS AND GENERAL SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

- (1) Area in acres — 49,754.
- (2) Population (Census 1961) — 43,592.
- (3) Registrar-General's estimate of home population, 1970 — 51,690.
- (4) Number of inhabited houses (Census 1961) — 13,294.
- (5) Number of inhabited houses end of 1970, according to Rate Book — 16,869.
- (6) Rateable value, 31st March, 1970 — £1,835,335.
- (7) Sum represented by a penny rate — £7,412.



Year	Reg. Gen. mid year estimates of population	Increase over previous year	% Increase	Rateable Value 1st April	% Increase of R.V.
1966	48,320	1,130	2.46	1,670,711	3.24
1967	49,220	900	1.86	1,704,005	1.99
1968	50,280	1,060	2.15	1,754,371	2.94
1969	51,310	1,030	2.05	1,802,710	2.76
1970	51,690	380	0.73	1,835,335	1.81

VITAL STATISTICS

PERIOD	DEATHS (all causes)		LIVE BIRTHS		STILL- BIRTHS		LIVE AND STILL BIRTHS	INFANT MORTALITY				NEO- NATAL	ILLEGITIMATE LIVE BIRTHS	MATERNAL MORTALITY	
	No. Regis- tered	Rate per 1000 Popula- tion	No. Regis- tered	Rate per 1000 Popula- tion	No. Regis- tered	Rate per 1000 Total Births		TOTAL							
								No. of Deaths Regis- tered	Rate per 1000 Live Births	Rate per 1000 legiti- mate Live Births	Rate per 1000 illegiti- mate Live Births				
Year ... 1970...	626	12.1	689	*13.3	16	23.0	705	10	15.0	12.0	63	12.0	5	—	—
Year ... 1969...	644	12.6	774	15.1	7	9.0	781	7	9.0	9.0	—	5.0	3.0	—	—
1968...	629	12.5	786	15.6	11	14.0	797	10	13.0	14.0	30	7.6	4.3	—	—
1967...	631	12.8	840	17.1	4	5.0	844	21	25.0	26.3	25	19.0	4.9	—	—
1966...	693	14.3	853	17.7	19	21.8	872	15	17.6	16.9	37	12.9	3.1	—	—
1965...	645	13.7	808	17.1	12	14.6	820	16	19.8	16.6	115	14.9	3.2	—	—
Average 5 years 1965—1969	—	13.1	—	16.5	—	12.8	—	—	16.8	16.5	41.4	11.8	—	—	—

\* Adjusted (live birth-rate; comparability factor, 1.16 } = 16.0 per 1,000  
(death-rate; comparability factor, 0.95 } = 11.7 per 1,000

The Rural District, which is mainly agricultural, consists chiefly of pleasant undulating country, dotted here and there with patches of woodland, and watered by innumerable brooks.

Dairy farming, poultry farming, market gardening, paper manufacture and engineering comprise the main industries. There was little evidence of unemployment among the inhabitants of the district in 1970.

Golf courses are situate at Penwortham and Lea. There are cricket grounds at Broughton, New Longton, Penwortham and Whittingham. Facilities for tennis, football and bowls are available, and Playing Fields have been provided by the Rural District Council in practically all parishes.

There are 40 schools in the area, providing facilities for both primary and secondary education, and the Lancashire County Council provides branches of the County Library mostly in schools and village halls throughout the district.

### BIRTHS AND DEATHS

Live Births. The statistics with regard to both births and deaths, have again been supplied by the Registrar-General through the County Public Health Department. The number of births and deaths referred to in this report are those registered during the calendar year, corrected for "inward" and "outward" transfers.

According to the Registrar-General, the total births registered in or belonging to the Rural Area during the year 1970 number 689 (males 345, females 344); 85 less than in the year 1969.

The live birth-rate for the Rural District, calculated on the estimated home population, corresponds to 13.3 per 1000, as against 15.1 last year. The adjusted birth-rate, using the comparability factor supplied by the Registrar-General, is 15.4. The live birth-rate for England and Wales for the year 1970 was 16.0.

The sex distribution of the children born alive during 1970 is shown below. For comparative purposes, the figures for the previous decade are also given:

Year		Males		Females		Total
1961	.....	341	.....	362	.....	703
1962	.....	364	.....	390	.....	754
1963	.....	417	.....	346	.....	763
1964	.....	394	.....	390	.....	784
1965	.....	418	.....	390	.....	808
1966	.....	461	.....	392	.....	853
1967	.....	417	.....	423	.....	840
1968	.....	393	.....	393	.....	786
1969	.....	381	.....	393	.....	774
1970	.....	345	.....	344	.....	689



**Illegitimate Live Births.** The number of births of illegitimate children belonging to the Rural District and recognised during 1970 compared with that of every other year of the last decade is shown below:

Year	1961	.....	17	Year	1966	.....	27
„	1962	.....	19	„	1967	.....	41
„	1963	.....	20	„	1968	.....	33
„	1964	.....	28	„	1969	.....	25
„	1965	.....	26	„	1970	.....	32

**DEATHS.** The net deaths actually belonging to the Preston Rural District for the year 1970 numbered 626 (males 308, females 318). This total includes deaths of persons belonging to the Rural District who died outside the district, and of persons who died in the Whittingham Hospital and Ribchester Institution irrespective of their home address.

The death-rate for the Rural District calculated on a home population of 51,690 is 12.1 per 1,000. Last year the death-rate was 12.6. The average death-rate for the five years 1965–1969 was 13.1.

The Registrar-General has supplied a comparability factor for adjusting local death-rates. This factor takes into account the varying population constitution, including sex and age distribution to make every district comparative from the mortality point of view with the death-rate of the country as a whole, or with similarly adjusted death-rates for other areas. The adjusted death-rate using the comparability factor is 11.5 per 1,000, as against last year's adjusted rate of 11.3.

The death-rate for the whole of England and Wales in 1970 was 11.7 per 1,000 home population.

**PRINCIPAL CAUSES OF DEATHS.** Approximately 70 per cent of all deaths each year are classified to causes falling within three main groups — heart disease, cancer and cerebrovascular disease. The relative importance of these and of other principal causes of death in 1970 is shown in the following table:

Cause of Death	No. of Deaths	Percentage of Total Deaths
Heart Disease (all forms) .....	226 (240)	36.10 (37.5)
Cerebrovascular Disease .....	88 (97)	14.05 (15.1)
Cancer (including Hodgkin's Disease, leukaemia and aleukaemia) .....	104 (100)	16.61 (15.6)
Pneumonia, Bronchitis and Influenza .....	90 (90)	14.37 (14.1)
Other circulatory Disease .....	26 (23)	4.15 (3.6)
Violence (including all Accidents, Suicide and Homicide) .....	32 (25)	5.11 (3.9)

The figures in brackets show the number of deaths for 1969.

In the following paragraphs further details are given of the chief causes of death.

## MALIGNANT NEOPLASM, INCLUDING NEOPLASMS OF LYMPHATIC AND HAEMATOPOIETIC TISSUES

The group of causes is included in the Registrar-General's Short List under the headings used in the table below.

Classification	Males	Females	Total
Buccal Cavity etc. ....	1	1	2
Oesophagus .....	6	3	9
Stomach .....	10	5	15
Intestine .....	6	4	10
Larynx .....	—	1	1
Lung, Bronchus .....	17	4	21
Breast .....	—	12	12
Uterus .....	—	1	1
Prostate .....	3	—	3
Leukaemia .....	2	—	2
Other malignant neoplasms....	13	15	28
Total: all forms .....	58	46	104

The total of 104 deaths from cancer is equal to the average of the previous four years.

Of the total deaths from all causes assigned to the Rural District in 1970 the 104 classified to all forms of cancer represented 16.61% and were equivalent to a rate of 2.01 per thousand of the estimated Rural District population, which is less than the rate for England and Wales of 2.39.

## PNEUMONIA, BRONCHITIS AND INFLUENZA

Deaths assigned to these cause groups — Pneumonia 52, Bronchitis 28, Influenza 10.

## OTHER CIRCULATORY DISEASE

This classification which covers all diseases of the circulatory system except heart diseases mentioned earlier, accounted in 1970 for 26 deaths, an increase of 3 over 1969. The mortality rate per thousand of the estimated Rural District population was 0.50 compared with rates of 0.43 and 0.53 for 1969 and 1968 respectively.

The following table shows the net deaths actually belonging to the Rural District for the year 1970 distinguishing males and females and at different periods of life.

Cause of death	Sex	4 Weeks				Age in years									
		Total Under and			1 year										
		all	4 weeks	1 year		1—	5—	15—	25—	35—	45—	55—	65—	75 & over	
B4 Enteritis and other diarrhoeal diseases	M	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
B6(1) Late effects of respiratory T.B.	M	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
B19(1) Malignant neoplasm, buccal cavity etc.	M	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
	F	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
B19(2) Malignant neoplasm, Oesophagus	M	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	2	—
	F	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—
B19(3) Malignant neoplasm, stomach	M	10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	4	2	—
	F	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	2	2	—
B19(4) Malignant neoplasm, intestine	M	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	2	2	—
	F	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	—
B19(5) Malignant neoplasm, larynx	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—



B19(6) Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	M	17	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	4	10	2	
	F	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	—	
B19(7) Malignant neoplasm, breast	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
	F	12	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	3	5	2	
B19(8) Malignant neoplasm, uterus	F	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	
B19(9) Malignant neoplasm, prostate	M	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	
B19(10) Leukaemia	M	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
B19(11) Other malignant neoplasms	M	13	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	2	3	5	
	F	15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	4	4	3	
B21 Diabetes mellitus	M	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	
	F	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	4	
B46(1) Other endocrine etc., diseases	M	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
B46(2) Other diseases of blood, etc.	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
	F	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	
B46(3) Mental disorders	M	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
	F	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	
B46(5) Other diseases of nervous system	M	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	1	
	F	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	
B26 Chronic rheumatic heart disease	M	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	2	1	
	F	8	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	1	1	4	
B27 Hypertensive disease	M	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	4	
	F	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	4	
B28 Ischaemic heart disease	M	89	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	8	25	33	21	
	F	76	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	9	20	46	
B29 Other forms of heart disease	M	14	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	3	8	
	F	22	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	20	
B30 Cerebrovascular disease	M	35	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	5	16	12	
	F	53	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	7	9	33	
B46(6) Other diseases of circulatory system	M	13	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	3	4	4	
	F	13	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	3	8	
B31 Influenza	M	4	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	—	
	F	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	4	1	
B32 Pneumonia	M	19	1	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	5	5	6	
	F	33	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	2	3	6	21	
B33(1) Bronchitis and emphysema	M	22	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	6	12	
	F	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	4	
B46(7) Other diseases of respiratory system	M	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	
	F	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	
B34 Peptic ulcer	M	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
B36 Intestinal obstruction and hernia	M	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	
	F	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	
B37 Cirrhosis of liver	M	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
B46(8) Other diseases of digestive system	M	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	1	1	
	F	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	2	
B38 Nephritis and nephrosis	M	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	
	F	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	
B39 Hyperplasia of prostate	M	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	
B46(9) Other diseases, genito-urinary system	M	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
B46(11) Diseases of musculo-skeletal system	M	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	
	F	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	
B42 Congenital anomalies	M	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
	F	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
B43 Birth injury, difficult labour, etc.	M	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
	F	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
B44 Other causes of perinatal mortality	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
	F	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
B45 Symptoms and ill defined conditions	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
	F	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	4	
BE47 Motor vehicle accidents	M	6	—	—	—	—	3	1	—	—	2	—	—	
	F	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	
BE48 All other accidents	M	7	—	—	—	1	1	1	1	—	—	1	2	
	F	13	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	1	3	1	6	
BE49 Suicide and self-inflicted injuries	M	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	
	F	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	
BE50 All other external causes	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
	F	2	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	
TOTAL ALL CAUSES		M	308	5	1	3	3	4	3	8	17	68	102	94
	F	318	3	1	1	—	1	3	2	21	41	70	175	



## INFANT MORTALITY

The deaths of infants under the age of one year numbered 10 (males 6, females 4), representing an increase of over 42% compared with 1969. Four-fifths of the infant deaths occurred during the first four weeks after birth. They were equivalent to a rate of 12 per 1,000.

## INFECTIOUS AND OTHER NOTIFIABLE DISEASES

Infectious cases are removed to Deepdale Isolation Hospital, Preston, and transport arrangements are expeditious.

A pleasing feature of the annual review of the prevalence of notifiable diseases and non-notifiable acute infectious diseases is the repeated statement that no cases of diphtheria and smallpox have been recorded during the year. This can also be said of Acute Poliomyelitis during 1970.

**Scarlet Fever.** The 25 notified cases of this disease represent a decrease of 5 when compared with the average annual figure for the previous decade. 88% of the cases were of primary school age.

**Whooping Cough.** 7 cases were notified as against an average of 6 for the previous five years.

**Measles** (excluding rubella). The incidence of measles during the past five years is:

1965 — 224	1967 — 272
1966 — 822	1968 — 317
1969 — 27	1970 — 584

**Typhoid.** No cases of Typhoid or Paratyphoid occurred.

**Infective Jaundice.** 26 cases were notified as against 29 the previous year which was the first full year of notification.

**Dysentery.** Only 5 cases of dysentery were recorded which is the lowest figure for the past ten years.

**Notifications.** The table below shows the number of infectious and other notifiable diseases notified during the year 1970 after corrections subsequently made either by notifying medical practitioners or by the medical superintendent of the local infectious diseases hospital.

**Notification of Infectious and Other Notifiable Diseases (after correction)**  
for the year ended 31st December, 1970, analysed by age

Notifiable diseases	Total Cases Notified											Total Deaths
	Total Cases at all ages	Age Periods—Years										
		0-	1-	2-	3-	4-	5-	10-	15-	25 & over	Age un-known	
Scarlet Fever ...	25	—	—	1	1	4	16	3	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough...	7	1	—	2	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis												
Paralytic ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Non-paralytic ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles (excluding rubella) ...	584	25	73	94	78	105	200	7	2	—	—	—
Diphtheria ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery ...	5	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	2	2	—	—
Meningococcal Infection ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
		0-	5	15	45	65 and over	Age un-known					
Infective Jaundice ..	26	—	15	10	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Smallpox ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Encephalitis												
Infective ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Post-infectious ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteric or Typhoid Fever ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Paratyphoid Fevers ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Food Poisoning ...	7	—	1	4	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis ...												
Respiratory ...	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Meninges & C.N.S.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other ...	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

## TUBERCULOSIS

The scheme for the prevention and treatment of Tuberculosis in the Administrative County is administered by the Lancashire County Council and the Manchester Region Hospitals Board respectively.

A number of dispensaries are provided for the diagnosis of the disease, staffed by Chest Physicians and Tuberculosis Health Visitors. These dispensaries serve a valuable purpose in the supervision of patients and family contacts.

The first table opposite gives in certain specified age groups the male and female notified cases of respiratory and non-respiratory tuberculosis in the year 1970, together with the deaths therefrom.

The second table gives a comparison with the previous five years, but excludes age distribution.



Age Periods  Years	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0 ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1 ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
2 ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
5 ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
10 ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
15 ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
20 ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
25 ...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
35 ...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
45 ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
55 ...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
65 ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
75 and upwards	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Totals ...	1	—	—	1	1	—	NIL	
	1		1		1			

YEAR	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
1970	1	...	...	1	1	...	...	...
1969	4	9	...	...	4	1	...	...
1968	5	7	...	...	..	...	...	...
1967	3	2	1	1	1	1	...	...
1966	7	2	1	1	1	...	...	...
1965	7	5	...	...	2	1	...	...

## NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948

Number of burials arranged under the Act ..... Nil

## SCHOOLS

There are 40 schools in the Rural Area providing facilities for both primary and secondary education.

With minor exceptions, the sanitary facilities including food hygiene arrangements are satisfactory.

## NEW LEGISLATION

The following new legislation inter alia is now in force or will shortly be coming into force:

The Cheese Regulations 1970.

Standard Tests for Effluents — Fish Toxicity Test.

Meat Inspection. Bovine Tuberculosis. Exclusion of Young Stock from Renewal Tests.

Caravan Sites Act 1968 (Part II) (Commencement) Order 1970.

Storm Overflows and the Disposal of Storm Sewage.

The Labelling of Food Regulations 1970.

Clean Air Act 1956 Exempted Fireplaces.

The Cream Regulations 1970.

Gipsy Encampments — Part II of the Caravan Sites Act 1968.

Clean Air Act 1956 The Smoke Control Areas (Authorised Fuels) Regulations 1970.

Emulsifiers and Stabilisers in Food (Amendment) Regulations 1970.

Colouring Matter in Food (Amendment) Regulations 1970.

The Food Hygiene (General) Regulations 1970.

Disposal of Solid Toxic Wastes.

The Milk (Eradication of Brucellosis) Scheme 1970.

The Disease of Animals (Approved Disinfectants) Order 1970.

Clean Air Act 1956 The Smoke Control Areas (Authorised Fuels) (No. 2) Regulations 1970.

Clean Air Act 1956 Exempted Fireplaces.

The Public Health (Aircraft) Regulations 1970.

The Public Health (Ships) Regulations 1970.

Milk and Dairies (General) Regulations 1959 Approved Chemical Agents.

## MEAT AND OTHER FOODS

A meat inspection service was provided at a private slaughterhouse at Farington.

The following table shows the numbers of certain classes of animals killed in the Rural Area during 1970 together with the number and result of the inspections carried out.

	Cattle, excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep & Lambs	Pigs
Number killed (if known) ... ..	381	Nil	1	926	34
Number inspected ... ..	381	Nil	1	926	34
<b>All diseases except Tuberculosis and and Cysticerci</b>					
Whole carcasses condemned ...	Nil	Nil	Nil	1	Nil
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ... ..	87	Nil	Nil	45	3
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci ...	22.83	Nil	Nil	4.96	8.82
<b>Tuberculosis only</b>					
Whole carcasses condemned ...	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ... ..	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis ...	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
<b>Cysticercosis</b>					
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ... ..	1	Nil	Nil	4	Nil
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration ... ..	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Generalised and totally condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

## POULTRY INSPECTION

There are 15 poultry processing establishments within the District and altogether 341 visits were made to these premises during the year under review. Over 302,000 birds were processed including turkeys, ducks, hens, broilers and capons. 1.6 per cent of the birds were rejected as being unfit for human consumption, the weight of which was estimated at 6 tons 6 cwt. 84 lbs.

Unfortunately the staffing position does not permit the inspection of poultry to be given the attention it deserves.



## SAMPLING — FOOD & DRUGS ACT, 1955

Details of samples taken by the Assistant County Public Health Officer under the provisions of the above Act are:—

A total of 241 samples was obtained comprising 135 milks (10 of which were Channel Islands milk) and 106 others as follows:—

3 Bread	1 Medicated Shampoo
1 Sterilised Cream	2 Medicated Toothpaste
1 Ground White Pepper	1 Ham
1 Lemon Pie Filling	1 Prawn Curry with Rice, Dry
1 Sweets	1 Laxative Pills
1 Sugar	1 Full Cream Milk Bread
1 Coffee & Chicory Essence, Liquid, sweetened	1 Cheese Sandwich Biscuits
3 Tea	1 Lager Beer
3 Self-Raising Flour	1 Pale Ale
i Teacakes Mix	1 Strong Ale
1 Orange Drink	1 Fish Cakes
1 Raspberry, Vinegar & Olive Oil B.P.	1 Rissoles, frozen
1 Shredded Beef Suet	1 Cod Portions in Batter, frozen
1 Golden Honey Sponge Pudding, canned	1 Sliced Beef in Gravy, frozen
1 Chicken Pie, frozen	1 Celery, fresh
1 Stewed Steak with Rich Gravy, canned	1 Table Jelly
1 Chicken Noodle Snack, canned	1 Syrup of Figs
5 Baby Food	1 Indigestion Powder
1 Bloater Paste	1 Cod in Butter Sauce
1 Chicken and Ham Paste	1 Tomato Juice, canned
1 Fruit Salad in Heavy Syrup	1 Antiseptic Balm
1 Instant Mashed Potato	1 Ice Lollies
1 Potted Beef	1 Chicken Pie, uncooked
1 Whole White Pepper	1 Acne Ointment
1 Potato Salad in Mayonnaise, canned	1 Aureomycin Ointment
1 Skinless Lambs' Tongues, canned	1 Dusting Powder
1 Fresh Fish "Golden Cutlet"	1 Ferri. Sulph. Compound Tablets
1 Raspberries in Syrup, canned	1 Compound Ferrous Sulp. Tablets
1 Hamburgers and Gravy with Onions, canned	1 Albucid Eye Ointment
	1 Atropine Eye Ointment
	1 Eye Drops
	1 Steak Pudding
	1 Potato Cakes
	1 Ice Cream
	1 Mixed Fruit Pudding
	i Apple Puddings

- |                              |                                |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1 Meatballs in Gravy, canned | 1 Instant Potato               |
| 1 Honey                      | 1 Savoury Biscuits             |
| 1 Cough Medicine             | 1 Meat from Chicken Curry Meal |
| 1 Whole Black Pepper         | 1 Peas, frozen                 |
| 1 Ground Curry Powder        | 1 Beans, frozen                |
| 1 Malt & Vitamins Compound   | 1 Sprouts, frozen              |
| 1 Plain Flour                | 1 Plaice, frozen               |
| 1 Cooking Fat                | 1 Cream, frozen                |
| 1 Butter                     | 1 Antiseptic Throat Pastilles  |
| 1 Malt Vinegar               | 3 Brandy                       |
| 1 Food Colouring             | 2 Rum                          |
| 1 Milk Alternative Powder    | 1 Gin                          |
| 1 Potato and Meat Pie        | 1 Pork Luncheon Meat, canned   |
|                              | 1 Ice Cream Lollies.           |

I give below for your information details of samples of which the County Analyst gave adverse reports:—

Sample	Result of Analysis	Action Taken
Bread	Contained a bent piece of Copper plated iron wire, flattened at one end which weighed 0.15 gramme and measured approx. one inch in length.	Prosecution Fined £40 Costs £10.50
Chicken Noodle Snack, canned	Meat content only 15% since the name "Chicken Noodle Snack" uses the word "Chicken" as the first word it could be held to indicate in the sense of Regulation 6(8)(c)(1) of the Canned Meat Product Regulations 1967, that chicken is a major ingredient. In addition to the labelling "Hot Snack Special" therefore, the label should bear the words 'Ready Meal'.	Manufacturer advised
Fruit Salad in Heavy Syrup (opened can)	Contained the thorax, three wings and three legs of a wasp and these weighed 10 milligrams.	Importers cautioned and complainant informed
Informal Milk	Consisted of Untreated Milk yet labelled Pasteurised Milk.	Formal sample advised
Informal Milk	Consisted of unpasteurised milk.	Prosecution Fined £50 Costs £13.50



Sample	Result of Analysis	Action Taken
Informal Milk	Consisted of unpasteurised milk.	Same Supplier as above
(Part) Potato & Meat Pie	The discolouration of the potatoes could be seen microscopically to be associated with the individual potato cell walls and was probably one of the natural defects of old potatoes caused by conditions of storage etc. and aggravated by heating. No mould or metallic contamination was present.	Baker cautioned and complainant informed
Laxative Pills	Total magnesium (as Light Magnesium Carbonate) 8.1 mgm. per pill compared with declared 2.5 mgm. per pill. Excess magnesium due to excipient filling.	No action advised
Full Cream Milk Bread	Consisted of an ordinary milk loaf — the prominence given to the words "Full Cream" on the label could therefore be held to be misleading.	Bakery advised
Ferri. Sulph. Compound Tablets	Five of the tablets were in a badly damaged condition and had the appearance of old stock.	School Clinic. D.M.O. advised to withdraw stock.
Atropine Eye Ointment	Labelled "Ointment Atrop B.P. 58" and not packed in the manner now prescribed in the B.P.C. monograph for Eye Ointment.	Divisional Medical Officer advised to renew stock
Part of a Steak Pudding	Sample included one domestic housefly ( <i>Musca Domestica</i> ) measuring seven millimetres in length and weighing 17 milligrams.	Baker cautioned and complainant informed
Potato Cakes	Contained part of a domestic housefly ( <i>Musca Domestica</i> ) comprising the thorax, four legs and two wings, weighing 2 milligrams.	Prosecution Fined £5 Costs £8.40
Bread	Contained part of the body of a Muscid fly <i>Polietes Lardarius</i> measuring 10 millimetres in length and weighing 25 milligrams.	Prosecution Fined £10 Costs £8.40
Formal Milk	Contents as under:	Prosecution
Fat	2.10%	Fined £25
Solids-not-fat	8.95%	Costs £13
Water	88.95%	
	<hr/> 100.00%	
	therefore deficient of 30% fat.	



Sample	Result of Analysis	Action Taken
Bread	Contained soft brown pellets of dirty flour containing 3 milligrams of finely divided iron and iron oxides and 16 milligrams of mineral oil lubricant weighing in all 0.2 grammes.	Baker cautioned and complainant informed

#### PERCENTAGE OF UNSATISFACTORY SAMPLES OF FOOD AND DRUGS

Year		Total No. of samples	No. of unsatisfactory samples		Percentage unsatisfactory
1966	.....	246	..... 15	.....	6.0
1967	.....	257	..... 14	.....	5.4
1968	.....	255	..... 14	.....	5.1
1969	.....	245	..... 12	.....	4.9
1970	.....	241	..... 16	.....	6.6

#### SWIMMING POOLS

There is one swimming pool in the district. Samples have shown the arrangements for chlorination and filtration to be satisfactory.

## Water Supplies

The two major sources of water distribution in the Rural District are the Preston & District and Fylde Water Boards, who supply 41,700 and 9,700 water consumers respectively. Both supplies are controlled at source by both chemical and bacteriological tests, not only of raw water but, where treatment is installed, of the water going into the supply. In addition, it is the responsibility of the Council to ensure the water supply to the district is satisfactory in quality and routine sampling from domestic taps in the various townships was carried out by officers of the Council. Samples indicated that the lead content was less than 0.05 p.p.m. The fluoride content is 0.05 p.p.m. for the Preston water and less than 0.1 p.p.m. for Fylde water.

The following table gives details of water supplies in the various townships. The number of houses on private supply is 71.

Parish	No. of houses newly connected to public mains supply during 1970		From Public Mains				From Private Supplies, <i>e.g.</i> wells, springs, etc.	
			Direct to houses		By means of standpipe			
	Existing houses	New houses	No. of dwelling houses	Estimtd. No. of population	No. of dwelling houses	Estimtd. No. of population	No. of dwelling houses	Estimtd. No. of population
Barton ...	...	14	669	1926	...	...	...	...
Broughton ...	...	3	191	557	...	...	...	...
Cuerdale ...	...	...	10	45	...	...	...	...
Dutton ...	1	...	46	150	...	...	20	57
Farington ...	...	50	1677	4740	...	...	...	...
Goosnargh ...	1	...	292	1028	...	...	31	88
Grimsargh ...	...	58	439	1212	...	...	...	...
Haighton ...	...	...	68	240	...	...	1	3
Hothersall ...	...	...	41	159	...	...	...	...
Hutton ...	...	3	888	2557	...	...	...	...
Lea ...	...	6	1246	3700	...	...	4	11
Little Hoole ...	...	6	359	988	...	...	...	...
Longton ...	...	60	2754	7707	...	...	...	...
Much Hoole ...	...	6	475	1305	...	...	2	7
Penwortham ...	...	29	5795	16847	...	...	...	...
Ribchester ...	...	1	502	1474	...	...	8	25
Samlesbury ...	...	..	407	1198	...	...	3	10
Whittingham ...	..	45	636	3710	...	...	1	4
Woodplumpton ...	...	15	655	1939	...	...	1	3
TOTAL Whole District	2	296	17150	51482	...	...	71	208

Copies of typical chemical results are given below expressed as parts per million.

### Preston and District Water Board

Total solid residue .....	60.0
Oxygen required to oxydise in 3 hours .....	1.16
Ammonia — Free and saline .....	0.06
Ammonia — Albuminoid .....	0.072
Nitrogen as Nitrates ....	0.30
Nitrogen as Nitrites ....	Nil
Chlorides .....	12.0
Temporary hardness .....	2.0
Permanent hardness .....	36.0
Total hardness .....	38.0
pH value .....	7.2
Physical properties — Colour .....	10 hazen

### Fylde Water Board

	Hodder Supply		Whitechapel Supply
Appearance .....	clear & bright	...	clear & bright
Colour (Hazen p. p. m. Pt) .....	3	.....	5
Turbidity (p. p. m. Silica) .....	Nil	.....	Nil
Odour .....	Nil	.....	Nil
Taste .....	Normal	.....	Normal
Reaction pH Value .....	7.8	.....	6.6
Residual Chlorine .....	0.15	.....	0.02
Free & Saline Ammonia as N <sub>2</sub> .....	0.15	.....	0.05
Albuminoid Ammonia as N <sub>2</sub> .....	0.07	.....	0.10
Nitrous Nitrogen as N <sub>2</sub> .....	Negligible		Negligible
Nitric Nitrogen as N <sub>2</sub> .....	0.43	.....	0.48
Oxygen absorbed 4 hours at 27°C .....	0.71	.....	0.25
Free Acidity as CO <sub>2</sub> .....	Nil	.....	Nil
Carbonate Hardness as CaCO <sub>3</sub> .....	20	.....	15
Total Hardness as CaCO <sub>3</sub> .....	40	.....	26
Non-Carbonate Hardness as CaCO <sub>3</sub> .....	20	.....	11
Excess Alkalinity as Na <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub> .....	Nil	.....	Nil
Calcium as CaCO <sub>3</sub> .....	34	.....	16
Magnesium as CaCO <sub>3</sub> .....	6	.....	10
Total Solids dried at 180°C.....	89	.....	61
Chloride as Cl .....	10	.....	13
Sulphate as SO <sub>4</sub> .....	22	.....	12
Lead as Pb .....	less than 0.05.....		less than 0.05
Manganese as Mn .....	0.02	.....	0.03
Copper as Cu .....	Nil	.....	Nil
Iron as Fe .....	0.06	.....	0.15
Aluminium as Al .....	0.09	.....	negligible
Fluoride as F.....	less than 0.1	.....	less than 0.10
Electrical Conductivity m m h o/c.c.....	108		80

p.p.m.



## NEW HOUSING

The following table shows the number and situation of new houses which were erected and gives a comparison with the previous year:

Parish	1970			1969		
	Private Enterprise	Council	Total	Private Enterprise	Council	Total
Barton .....	14	—	14	4	—	4
Broughton .....	3	—	3	2	—	2
Cuerdale .....	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dutton .....	—	—	—	—	—	—
Farington .....	50	—	50	32	—	32
Goosnargh .....	—	—	—	—	—	—
Grimsargh .....	58	—	58	35	—	35
Haighton .....	—	—	—	1	—	1
Hothersall .....	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hutton .....	3	—	3	6	—	6
Lea .....	6	—	6	—	—	—
Little Hoole .....	6	—	6	7	—	7
Longton .....	60	—	60	143	44	187
Much Hoole .....	6	—	6	12	—	12
Penwortham .....	29	—	29	42	—	42
Ribchester .....	1	—	1	—	—	—
Samlesbury .....	—	—	—	6	—	6
Whittingham ....	45	—	45	22	—	22
Woodplumpton....	15	—	15	11	—	11
Totals .....	296	—	296	323	44	367

The number of houses in the district now stands at 17,221, and the following table analyses this total by age:

Not more than 10 years old .....	4,573
Between 10 and 20 years old .....	2,794
Between 20 and 30 years old .....	1,184
Between 30 and 40 years old .....	3,538
Between 40 and 50 years old ....	2,412
Over 50 years old .....	2,720

## Sewage Disposal

The several comprehensive schemes of sewerage recently completed have greatly improved the sewage situation in the Rural Area, and the following table indicates the present position in the various parishes.

The total population figure of 3,710 for the parish of Whittingham includes some 1,995 patients and resident staff of the Whittingham Hospital, which has its own sewage treatment works. Accordingly, the total population figure given in the right-hand column of the table would be more accurately quoted at 7,252.

Parish	Connected to Public Sewer		Septic Tank, etc.	
	No. of Dwelling houses	No. of Population	No. of Dwelling houses	No. of Population
Barton ...	603	1721	66	205
Broughton ...	87	247	104	310
Cuerdale ...	...	...	10	45
Dutton ...	...	...	66	207
Farington ...	1642	4667	35	73
Goosnargh ...	45	159	278	957
Grimsargh ...	401	1090	38	122
Haighton ...	...	...	69	243
Hothersall ...	...	...	41	159
Hutton ...	768	2221	120	336
Lea ...	967	2887	283	824
Little Hoole ...	316	855	43	133
Longton ...	2710	7579	44	128
Much Hoole ...	423	1158	54	154
Penwortham ...	5783	16813	12	34
Ribchester ...	363	1066	147	433
Samlesbury ...	154	452	256	756
Whittingham ...	410	1135	227	2579
Woodplumpton ...	139	393	517	1549
<b>TOTAL</b>				
Whole District ...	14811	42443	2410	9247

The main districts which still require public sewerage facilities are the Darkin-son Lane and the Hoyles Lane areas of Lea, Woodplumpton Village and a small area of Whittingham close to the Longridge-Whittingham boundary.

# Factories Act, 1961

## Prescribed Particulars on the administration of the Factories Act, 1961

### Part I of the Act

1—INSPECTIONS for the purpose of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors)

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of		
		Inspections (3)	Written notices (4)	Occupiers prosecuted (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities ...	1	1	1	...
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ...	136	45	...	...
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises) ...	1	1	...	...
TOTAL ...	138	47	1	...



## 2—CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

Particulars (1)	No. of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector (4)	By H.M. Inspector (5)	
Want of cleanliness (S.1) ..	1	1	..	1	..
Overcrowding (S.2) ..	..	..	..	..	..
Unreasonable temperature (S.3) ..	..	..	..	..	..
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	..	..	..	..	..
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6) ..	..	..	..	..	..
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient ..	..	..	..	..	..
(b) Unsuitable or defective ..	2	2	..	2	..
(c) Not separate for sexes ..	..	..	..	..	..
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)..	..	..	..	..	..
TOTAL ..	3	3	..	3	..

### Part VIII—Sections 133 and 134

Number of Outworkers in August List required by Section 133 (1) (c), 1 Wearing Apparel (making, etc.)

J. WALKER,

Medical Officer of Health.

# Chief Public Health Inspector's Report

Mr. Chairman, Ladies & Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting to you my Annual Report dealing with the many aspects of environmental health which are within the province of the Public Health Department.

In view of the considerable amount of new development which has taken place in the area in recent years, together with new legislation and amended existing legislation, the work to be carried out by the Department increases annually. Despite this, however, good progress was made in most branches of the work.

## HOUSING

A substantial part of the Public Health Inspectors' time was taken up with the repair and improvement of houses, mainly in connection with applications for grant aid under the provisions of the Housing Act, 1969, and in the inspection of the work carried out.

Under this act, grants are payable not only in respect of works classed as improvements but also, for the first time since the Improvement Grant Scheme was introduced over twenty years ago, for repair and replacement provided the work is associated with improvement work and is necessary to bring the house up to the required standard.

As a result a considerable amount of additional work is involved in the checking of applications. A total of 99 grant applications to a value of £27,141 were approved by the Council during the year.

Progress with house improvements in the Middleforth General Improvement Area was satisfactory but due largely to staff shortage and the delays encountered in purchasing land, it has not been possible to make a start on the task of improving the environment in this area but nevertheless much useful preparatory work was carried out.

## FOOD INSPECTION

Apart from the inspection of food in shops at the request of the owners in order to give an opinion as to its fitness for human consumption, the District Public Health Inspectors were from time to time called upon to inspect food which had already been sold to customers. In one case a firm was prosecuted by the Council for selling food which was unfit for human consumption. A fine of £20.00 was imposed.



## ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

The progress in smoke control was less satisfactory than had been expected.

In June, details of the Council's plans for smoke control areas at Lea and Penwortham were submitted to the Department of the Environment, and it was somewhat disappointing to be informed that owing to the economic situation and the shortage of suitable solid smokeless fuel they did not consider it an opportune time for "non-black" local authorities to embark on smoke control. In these circumstances, there was no alternative but to leave our programme in abeyance for the time being. The Department of the Environment did however suggest that the Council prepare an outline scheme for the whole of the District in readiness for the time when more favourable consideration could be given to the control of smoke from domestic premises.

## THE CENTRAL LANCASHIRE NEW TOWN

Whilst there is a degree of control over both new and existing air pollution sources there is room for better legislation to aid this aspect of environmental health work. In particular the control measures over industrial odours together with pollution from exhausts and vents from trade processes are in need of revision.

One of the important side effects of the Central Lancashire New Town may well be a deterioration in the environment for many of the residents within the designated area and in this connection it would be advantageous to be able to assess the potential pollution factor of each proposed new factory.

Unfortunately planning activities are not always effectively co-ordinated with environmental health work and until a committee whose object is to prevent unnecessary air pollution and noise are able to deal with these matters at the planning stage the public will continue to get less protection than they should be entitled to.

## NUISANCES

A considerable number of complaints regarding alleged nuisances were received from individual members of the public but, unlike previous years, only a few of them concerned the invasion of houses by flies in warm weather. In recent years, during the summer months the Department has been inundated with complaints from persons residing near certain types of farm premises, such as pig and poultry farms, mushroom growing premises and mink farms. As far as the Southern part of the District was concerned, so numerous were the complaints that it occasionally became necessary for one of the District Inspectors to devote more or less the



whole of his time to investigating them and advising on measures to be taken to mitigate nuisance from flies.

The fact that so few complaints of this nature were received during the 1970 summer cannot be fully explained it would be easy to claim it as a success for the variety of methods used by the Department but I feel that some element of nature adversely affected the life cycle of many species of flying insects during the year under review. Although not a domestic problem the ermine moth whose caterpillars had in earlier years caused considerable damage in gardens and hedgerows were similarly greatly reduced in numbers.

In conclusion, I would like to tender my sincere thanks to all members of the Council particularly those on the Public Health and Housing Committees, for their support and interest in the work of the Department throughout the year. I would also like to thank the District Public Health Inspectors and clerical staff in the Department for their excellent co-operation and for the manner in which they helped individual members of the public with their many queries.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

T. BAXTER

Chief Public Health Inspector.

## PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTORS' VISITS

Drainage and Septic Tanks .....	480
Infectious Diseases .....	153
Verminous Premises and Persons .....	1
Waste Foods Order .....	5
Milk and Dairies .....	175
Food Premises .....	169
Shops .....	10
Factories .....	47
Caravans .....	17
Schools .....	1
Hotels, Inns, etc. ....	1
Ice Cream Premises .....	66
Hawkers .....	14
Prevention of Damage by Pests Act .....	66
Housing Acts — Discretionary and Standard Grants .....	900
Qualification Certificates .....	191
Clean Air Acts .....	15
Closet Conversions .....	2
Poultry Packing Stations .....	345
Petroleum Act .....	53
Water Supply .....	26
Slaughterhouses and Meat Inspection .....	131
Knacker's Yard .....	3
Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act .....	197
Housing Applications .....	10
Animal Boarding Establishments Act .....	28
Noise Abatement Act .....	36
Scrap Metal Dealers Act .....	2
Public Health Acts — Nuisances and Housing Defects .....	508
Other Visits .....	135
<hr/>	
Total Visits .....	3,787
<hr/>	

## NOTICES SERVED

Informal .....	33
Formal .....	12

## SANITARY DEFECTS DEALT WITH

Dampness .....	3
Defective Ceilings .....	4
Defective Closet Pails .....	—
Defective Closet Structures .....	2
Defective Doors .....	—
Defective Floors .....	3
Defective Gutters .....	2
Defective Paving .....	—
Defective Downspouts .....	2
Defective Roofs .....	2
Defective Chimneys .....	—
Defective Pointing .....	2
Defective Walls .....	3
Defective Brickwork .....	1
Defective W.C.s .....	3
Defective Windows .....	6
Defective Woodwork .....	—
Defective Fire Ranges .....	—
Defective Sink Waste Pipes .....	—
Defective Sinks .....	1
Insanitary Drainage .....	106
Ditches and Watercourses .....	1

## DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

Altogether 480 visits were made in connection with complaints of unsatisfactory drainage, including fouled ditches and watercourses and also for the purpose of drain testing. 296 new dwellings were connected to the public sewers in the various parishes during 1970, making 14,821 houses so connected out of a total in the Rural District of 17,221.

At the end of the year the position as regards sanitary conveniences belonging to inhabited houses was as follows:

No. of fresh water closets .....	17,419
No. of pail closets .....	274
No. of waste water closets .....	37

The pail closets mainly exist in the outlying parishes and the waste water closets in the older type terraced houses in the parish of Farington. The following conversions took place during 1970:

No. of pail closets to fresh water closets .....	20
No. of waste water closets to fresh water closets .....	1



The Department operates an eleven-hundred gallon cesspool emptier vehicle for the purpose of providing a free septic tank desludging service to houses in unsewered areas, and every effort is made to desludge the tanks at intervals of not more than six months. A service is also extended, as far as circumstances permit, to the Lancashire County Council in connection with public buildings on a rechargeable work basis. The income derived from this source amounted to £469.99.

In addition, a drain clearing service is available to householders on a fixed charge basis of 75p per clearance. The service is confined to drainage systems where inspection chambers are provided. 106 drains were cleared during 1970.

### INFECTIOUS DISEASE

153 visits have been made by the District Public Health Inspectors in connection with the investigation of infectious disease during 1970. They were related principally to outbreaks of gastro enteritis and other ill-defined sickness and diarrhoea occurring amongst school children.

## OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

192 premises are now registered. 197 visits of all kinds were made by the Public Health Inspectors to see that the requirements of the Act are being fully implemented.

### Particulars of Registrations and General Inspections

Class of Premises	Number of premises newly registered during the year	Total Number of registered premises at end of year	Number of registered premises receiving one or more general inspections during the year
Offices ... ..	3	38	3
Retail shops ... ..	3	114	3
Wholesale shops, warehouses	1	2	1
Catering establishments open to the public, canteens ... ..	2	37	2
Fuel storage depots ...	...	1	—
<b>TOTALS ...</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>192</b>	<b>9</b>

### Analysis by Workplace of Persons Employed in Registered Premises at end of Year

Class of Workplace	Number of persons employed
Offices ... ..	124
Retail shops ... ..	357
Wholesale departments, warehouses ... ..	13
Catering establishments open to the public ...	289
Canteens ... ..	...
Fuel storage depots ... ..	1
<b>Total ... ..</b>	<b>784</b>
<b>Total Males ... ..</b>	<b>313</b>
<b>Total Females ... ..</b>	<b>471</b>

No accidents occurred.

## SLUM CLEARANCE

Action taken with regard to the administration of the Housing Acts, 1936 to 1964.

The following table shows action taken in the various Parishes in the Rural District with regard to slum clearance from 1945 to 1970 inclusive:

PARISH	HOUSES						
	Demolished or closed		Undertakings accepted following formal action		Voluntary action by owners		Scheduled for demolition
	<i>Formally</i>	<i>Informally</i>	<i>Not to be used for human habitation</i>	<i>Re-construction</i>	<i>Re-construction or conversion to other use</i>	<i>Not to be used for human habitation</i>	
Barton ...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...
Broughton ...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cuerdale ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Dutton ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Farington ...	36	3	2	1	...	...	1
Goosnargh ...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...
Grimsargh ...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
Haighton ...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
Hothersall ...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...
Hutton ...	4	...	...	...	...	...	...
Lea ...	9	2	1	1	...	...	...
Little Hoole ...	1	2	...	1	...	...	...
Longton ...	36	13	4	6	...	...	...
Much Hoole ...	4	1	...	3	...	1	...
Penwortham ...	47	12	3	3	2	...	1
Ribchester ...	10	...	7	2	...	...	2
Samlesbury ...	10	4	...	4	...	...	1
Whittingham...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
Woodplumpton ...	21	6	5	3	...	...	...
TOTALS ...	182	44	25	27	2	1	5



## UNFIT HOUSES

The statistics shown below relate only to the year under review.  
Houses demolished

1. In clearance area .....	Nil
2. Not in clearance areas .....	6
3. No. of displaced persons re-housed .....	2

Unfit houses closed

1. Under Sections 16(4), 17(1), & 35(1), Housing Act, 1957	4
2. No. of displaced persons re-housed .....	6

Unfit houses made fit and houses in which defects were remedied

1. After informal action by local authority .....	319
2. After formal notice under —	
(a) Public Health Acts .....	Nil
(b) Sections 9 and 16 Housing Act, 1957 .....	4

## IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

Discretionary Grants

Number of schemes submitted —

1. By local authority to Ministry .....	Nil
2. By private individuals to the local authority .....	54
(a) No. of schemes completed during the year .....	23
(b) Additional separate dwellings included in the completed schemes .....	Nil

Standard Grants

Number of schemes submitted to local authority for improvements to —

(a) Full standard ....	47
(b) Reduced standard .....	Nil

Number of schemes approved by local authority for improvements to —

(a) Full standard .....	46
(b) Reduced standard .....	Nil

Number of schemes completed .....	47
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## HOUSING ACT 1969

Under Section 44 of this Act owners of property can now apply to the Local Authority for a Qualification Certificate.

The issue of such a certificate in respect of a dwelling enables the owner to approach the Rent Officer with the object of converting a controlled tenancy to a regulated tenancy, i.e. a fair rent. During the year under review 64 applications were approved and 14 applications were refused due to the property concerned being in a poor state of repair.

A number of the former were approved after minor repairs were completed following an informal approach to the owner.

## PETROLEUM ACTS

No. of new licences granted for storing petrol during the year — 1.

No. of renewal licences granted during the year — 102.

46 visits have been made in connection with the installation and testing of new storage tanks and the renewal of licences. 1 unattended coin operated petrol service station has been approved, subject to special conditions designed to ensure safe operation.

## CARAVANS

The Penwortham Caravan Site is licensed for 78 residential caravans. The site licence conditions require that each caravan on the site must be fitted with a bathroom and W.C. A public water supply and drainage connection is available on each caravan standing. Altogether 14 licences remain in force in respect of 109 'vans.

## SCRAP METAL DEALERS

The Scrap Metal Dealers' Act, 1964 requires every local authority to maintain a register of persons carrying on business in their area as scrap metal dealers and registration is by right and not at the discretion of the local authority. The main purpose of the Act is to ensure that accurate records of all purchases and sales are kept by any person dealing in scrap metals. 8 dealers have been registered.

## CLEAN AIR

Four installations were considered and approved under the provisions of the Clean Air Acts.

Complaints continued regarding grit and fume emissions from the plant operated at Leyland Motors Farington Works. Some improvements were obtained but there was insufficient Inspector's time available to thoroughly investigate air pollution from the various works operated by Leyland Motors.

A 105,000,000 Btu/h boiler installation was approved for the new brewery at Samlesbury. Originally an oil fired plant was proposed but after discussions with Whitbreads engineers this was changed to natural gas which is virtually pollution free. This decision prevented a discharge of sulphur dioxide into the atmosphere which in this case could have amounted to 400 lbs. per hr.

## ANIMAL BOARDING ESTABLISHMENTS ACT, 1963

There are 15 licensed establishments in the area catering for 242 dogs and 96 cats. Though minor improvement works were carried out in one or two instances, the general condition of the boarding establishments is satisfactory.



## NOISE ABATEMENT

Complaints of excessive noise dealt with by the Department included noise from building sites, barking dogs and noise originating from the activities of inconsiderate neighbours. The complaints were generally resolved after discussion and the tendering of advice.

## THE DISEASES OF ANIMALS (WASTE FOODS) ORDER, 1957

The Rural District Council carries out, on behalf of the Lancashire County Council, delegated duties under this Order and regular inspections are made of the five licensed premises — particular attention being paid to storage arrangements and the plant used for boiling operations.

## INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

### **Contaminated Food**

The procedure followed in receipt of a genuine complaint of contaminated food is to invite the representative of the manufacturing firm concerned to attend at the Council Offices for interview. The most common complaints received relate to foreign bodies in milk bottles, contaminated bread and pies and sausages affected by mould.

A Walmer Bridge resident reported to the office that she had found a foreign body in a sliced brown loaf which she had purchased at a local shop.

Upon investigation a piece of wire was found imbedded in one slice and there was also a brown stain on another slice which had been in contact with it.

The County Council prosecuted and the firm pleaded guilty and was fined £30.00 plus costs.

A complaint was received from a Penwortham housewife alleging she had purchased some sausages in an unfit condition from a local supermarket.

The sausages were affected by extensive mould growth and on investigation were found to have been manufactured fourteen days prior to sale.

The firm concerned was prosecuted by the Council and was fined £20.00 plus costs.

A Penwortham resident reported to the office that she had found a foreign body in a potato cake which had been purchased at a local shop.

Upon investigation a fly was found imbedded in the potato cake.

In accordance with our agreement with the County Council the matter was referred to their Public Health Committee. They prosecuted the firm concerned, the firm pleaded guilty and was fined £5.00 with costs.

Two further complaints were investigated during the year. They concerned an apple tart with mould spots and the sale of milk in a dirty bottle.

Inspection of food was requested at a number of food shops and a variety of foods were condemned amounting to 436 lbs. In addition some 2,583 packets of frozen food were condemned as a result of breakdowns of three freezer units.



## IMPORTED FOOD REGULATIONS 1968

Under the Imported Food Regulations, 1968, 348,000 items of food were cleared at the Hoole Container Depot.

### Milk Sampling

(a) Samples taken for Examination		Results				
Nature of test		Positive		Negative		No result
Brucellosis	Ring Test .....	26	....	262	....	6
	Culture Test .....	14	....	13	....	—
	Biological Test .....	5	....	45	....	—

Altogether 294 samples were taken, of which 80 were individual cow samples.

In order to assist producer retailers in identifying infected animals, individual cow samples are taken in instances when the farmer agrees to send such animals for slaughter.

4 positive herd samples were noted and immediate action taken to clear the infection. No Pasteurisation Notices under Regulation 20 of the Milk and Dairies (General) Regulations, 1959, were served.

Biological examination of all milk, water and other food samples is carried out at the Public Health Laboratory under the control of Dr. Robertson and excellent co-operation is always available from his staff.

### PRIVATE WATER SUPPLIES

Seventy one private water supplies from wells and springs exist in the Rural District. Many are a potential health hazard and it was necessary to continue sampling and to carry out site investigations in order to minimise the risks of pollution.

In general they are outside the limits of the public supply system, but each year we are able to achieve a small reduction in the number of private supplies.

## SLAUGHTERHOUSES ACT, 1958

### Slaughter of Animals Acts, 1954-58

The licensed Knacker's Yard which also serves a large area outside the district, dealt with 2,922 animals during 1970. Details are as follows:

Donkeys	.... .	10	Pigs	.....	800
Goats	.....	1	Sheep	.....	242
Cattle	.....	1,802	Horses	.....	62
			Foals	.....	5

A substantial number of the above were brought in dead.

Year	Number of Animals Killed
1966	..... 1,757
1967	..... 2,003
1968	..... 1,210
1969	..... 1,165
1970	..... 2,922

## MEAT INSPECTION

The Council provided a meat inspection service throughout the year at a private slaughterhouse in the parish of Farington.

The number of carcasses of animals inspected at the slaughterhouse was:

Cattle (excluding cows)	..... 381
Cows	..... Nil
Calves	..... 1
Pigs	..... 34
Sheep and Lambs	..... 926

and the following meat was condemned as unfit for human consumption:

38 beasts' livers for fasciola hepatica  
 18 beasts' livers for abscesses  
 14 beasts' livers for parasites  
 2 beasts' livers for bacterial necrosis  
 11 beasts' livers for distomatosis  
 1 beast's spleen for congestion  
 1 beast's head and tongue for cysticercus bovis  
 2 beasts' lungs for pleurisy  
 1 beast's lungs for pneumonia  
 45 sheeps' livers for parasites  
 4 sheeps' hearts for cysticercus ovis  
 1 sheep's carcase moribund  
 3 pigs' lungs for pneumonia

The total weight of meat condemned at the slaughterhouse was approximately 11 tons.

### FOOD PREMISES

169 visits have been made to food premises (including manufacturing premises, canteens, restaurants and hotel kitchens) and 13 informal notices served in connection with contraventions of the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960.

165 premises are now registered for the storage and sale of loose or pre-packed ice cream manufactured outside the district.

64 persons now operate as hawkers in the Rural District and have been registered for the purpose. 23 premises have also been registered for the storage of foodstuffs.

### PARKS AND PLAYING FIELDS

The following schedule gives particulars of the Playing Fields provided in the Rural District and an indication of the area in each field available for games:

Situation	Whole Area	Area for Games	Area let off for Grazing
Barton .....	5	5	—
Broughton .....	5	5	—
Church Wood, Penwortham .....	4½	4½	—
Farington .....	10	— 5½	4½
Goosnargh .....	4½	4½	—
Grimsargh .....	12	12	—



Situation	Whole Area	Area for Games	Area let off for Grazing
Hurst Grange, Penwortham .....	16 $\frac{1}{2}$	12	4 $\frac{1}{2}$
Hutton .....	7	7	—
Lea .....	16 $\frac{1}{2}$	4	12 $\frac{1}{2}$
Little Hoole .....	4	4	—
Longton .....	6	6	—
The Grove, Longton .....	3 $\frac{1}{4}$	3 $\frac{1}{4}$	—
Much Hoole .....	5	5	—
New Longton .....	6	6	—
Queensway, Penwortham .....	5	5	—
Penwortham Hall .....	18 $\frac{1}{2}$	18 $\frac{1}{2}$	—
Samlesbury .....	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	—
Tardy Gate .....	5 $\frac{1}{2}$	5 $\frac{1}{2}$	—
Woodplumpton .....	6 $\frac{1}{2}$	4 $\frac{1}{2}$	2
Total .....	142 $\frac{1}{2}$	118 $\frac{1}{2}$	23 $\frac{1}{2}$

### PEST CONTROL

Rats, mice, moles, cockroaches, wasps, caterpillars, bugs, fleas, and flies were all included in the wide variety of animals and insect life which the Pest Control Section were required to eliminate or control.

### MOLE CONTROL

The operator is trained in the use of strychnine poison and experience has shown it to be an effective method of control.

### RODENT CONTROL CONTRACT SERVICE

The changing pattern of agriculture, with its tendency to larger units, has resulted in a substantial reduction in the number of the pig and poultry type of smallholding; consequently, some reduction in the demand for the services in this particular sector was noted. Nevertheless, the contract service still provides the main work for the Pest Control Section, and produced an income of approximately £777.63 in the year under review. Details of the action taken in respect of business, agriculture and domestic premises are:

1.	Total number of dwelling houses in the district ..	=	17,221
2.	Total number of agricultural premises .....	=	925
3.	Total number of business premises .....	=	1,206
4.	Total number of visits to premises:		
	(a) agricultural (i) on contract work .....	=	978
	(ii) on survey inspection .....	=	11
	(b) dwelling houses .....	=	320
	(c) business—(i) on contract work .....	=	191
	(ii) on survey inspection .....	=	Nil
5.	Total number of infestations dealt with:		
	(a) by the local authority—agricultural .....	=	568
	dwellinghouses .....	=	77
	business .....	=	79
	(b) by occupiers .....	=	Nil
6.	Total number of occupiers under contract with the local authority .....	=	189

### REFUSE TIPS

Frequent visits were made to the refuse tips at Whittingham and Much Hoole and also former tips at Grimsargh, Longton, Samlesbury and Lea. No problems arose over rodent control on the tips, regular treatments and the frequent changing of permanent baiting points keeping infestation down to a minimum level.

### SEWERS

Twice yearly sewer treatments produced much the same results as in previous years. Minor infestations were noted at Ribchester. Two factors are operating against the complete eradication of rats from the Council's sewers:

- (a) infestation, resulting occasionally from a combination of waste food left by building operatives, and access to the sewers via drainage work under construction in new development areas, occurred in a number of cases.
- (b) a small number of storm water overflows of unsatisfactory design which discharge direct into small streams also provide a ready access to the sewerage system for rats.

The Council's sewage works are treated periodically to ensure freedom from rats.

Warfarin continued to be the main poison used against rodents but zinc phosphide, alphakil and various tracking dusts were also used.

T. BAXTER,  
Chief Public Health Inspector.









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